REMARKS

Status of Claims

Withdrawn claims 17, 18, 198-233, 236, and 265-268 have been canceled. Further, claims 234-235 and 263 have been canceled as substantially duplicative of other, allowed claims. Following entry of this amendment, claims 237-262 and 264 will be pending and allowed.

Claim Amendments

Claims 241-259 have been amended to correct an obvious typographical error. Specifically, the phrase "amino residue" has been changed to "amino acid residue". The amendments do not introduce any new matter.

Claim Objection

Claims 234-235 are objected to as being dependent upon withdrawn claim 201. Claims 234-235 have been canceled, thereby rendering the objection moot.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that the above-made remarks be entered and made of record in the file history of the instant application. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below if any further action by Applicant would expedite the examination of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 08-3425. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 23 March 2004

n J. Hymel (Reg. No. 45,414)

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MJH/LJH/mr